

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION

Baba Gang Nath Marg, Munirka,

New Delhi -110067

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Appeal No. CIC/PASOF/A/2017/107033

Appellant: Mr. Devendra Pratap Singh,

Respondent: Central Public Information Officer,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Passport Office-I,
S B T, Main Building, Mejnine Floor,
Hoshangabad Road, Habibganj,
Bhopal.

Date of Hearing: 11.1.2018

Dated of Decision: 11.1.2018

ORDER

Facts:

1. The appellant filed RTI application dated 7.9.2016 seeking certified certain details of its offices at Regional Office, ISBT, main building, Municipal Corporation, Bhopal and D.B. Maal, Bhopal viz. copy of rent agreement and copy of rent receipt of its Regional Office at ISBT, main building, Municipal Corporation, Bhopal and D.B. Maal, Bhopal from 1.4.2015 till 7.9.2016 etc.
2. The CPIO responded on 6.10.2016. The appellant filed first appeal dated 24.10.2016. The FAA responded on 22.11.2016. The appellant filed second appeal on 1.2.2017 before the Commission on the ground that information should be provided to him.

Hearing:

3. The appellant participated in the hearing through video conferencing. The respondent was represented through Counsel Mr. P. Roy Choudhary who was personally present in the hearing.
4. The appellant stated that he is seeking information/document on 2 points viz. copy of rent agreement and copy of rent receipt from 1.4.2015 till 7.9.2016. The appellant stated that respondent had denied the information/document

u/s 8(1) (d) of the RTI Act. The appellant further stated that he was called to visit Regional Passport Office, Bhopal and he visited twice but documents were not provided to him. The appellant said that copy of rent receipt for at least one month may be provided to him.

5. The respondent stated that as far as Regional Office is concerned, they will provide the information to the appellant. As regards Passport Sewa Kendra is concerned, it is being run by Tata Consultancy Service(TCS) and Ministry of External Affairs does not exercise its control over that issue. The respondent further stated that rent agreement has been executed between TCS and owner of the building.

6. The appellant stated that there is a display board indicating that Passport Sewa Kendra is a Govt. of India Office, therefore, information should be provided to him. The appellant further stated that officials of Govt. of India are sitting in the building and it is government office that has been shifted to this building. The appellant said that this passport office has been in operation for many years in this building which is now being called Passport Sewa Kendra. The appellant said that TCS has come very late.

Discussion/Observations:

7. The respondent should provide to the appellant information/document related to Regional Office in context of the RTI application within 30 days of receipt of this order. The Commission observed that a specific reply should be given by the respondent with regard to regulatory control over Passport Sewa Kendra, which is being run by Tata Consultancy Service, and similar details should be provided to the appellant, after obtaining the same from TCS, if required.

Decision:

8. The respondent is directed to take action as per para 7 above.

The appeal is disposed of. Copy of decision be given free of cost to the parties.

(Radha Krishna Mathur)
Chief Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy:

(Subhash Chander Sharma)
Deputy Registrar